

The Physician's BOOKSHELF



YEAR BOOK OF ANESTHESIA (1965-1966 Year Book Series)—Edited by Stuart C. Cullen, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Anesthesia, University of California Medical Center, San Francisco. Year Book Medical Publishers, Incorporated, 35 East Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill., 1965. 389 pages, \$8.50.

This volume contains excellent abstracts of original articles published between September 1964 and 1965. The designation "(1965-1966 Year Book Series)" is somewhat misleading. As with Yearbooks for other medical specialties, the objective is to provide the anesthesiologist with a means for reviewing the related medical literature published during the past year. Since anesthesiology is concerned with so many disciplines in basic sciences and clinical specialties, study by a practicing physician of all pertinent original articles in numerous diverse publications is not reasonable. In this volume, abstracts are grouped by subject with sections on non-volatile depressant drugs, inhalation agents and technics, relaxants, regional anesthesia, and sections on subspecialties in anesthesiology. In addition there are sections on circulation (with seven subsections), respiration, complications, hyperoxia, hypothermia, clinical problems and inhalation therapy. This arrangement, plus the indices by both subject and author, make the volume valuable for review of a special subject.

Abstracts are concise but contain information concerning both investigative methods and results and are followed by practical comments by Dr. Cullen, an experienced author, editor and teacher. In some abstracts, essential data are reproduced in graphs and tables.

The convenient size of the volume makes it easily portable and available for reading of several short abstracts at odd moments which otherwise might not be used to advantage.

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NEUROLOGICAL SURGERY OF TRAUMA—Prepared and published under the direction of Lieutenant General Leonard D. Heaton, The Surgeon General, United States Army. Editor in Chief: Colonel John Boyd Coates, Jr., MC, USA; Editor: Arnold M. Meierowsky, M.D., Office of The Surgeon General, Department of the Army, Washington, D.C., 1965. 604 pages, 273 illustrations, 35 tables, available for purchase at \$6.25 per copy from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

This beautifully prepared multi-authored work is timely and likely to be enduring since it reflects in a single volume the major neurosurgical experience of United States forces in the Korean war. Its perspective is not narrowly limited to this period in our history for it brings the follow-up analyses of neurosurgical casualties into meaningful focus for future guidance of those who will treat trauma to the nervous system. The lessons of the two great World Wars have been reassessed in the light of the Korean experience, and the personal involvement of many of the authors and especially the editor makes this work compelling in the experiences which it surveys. This is an operating surgeon's reference work. The individual surgical problems are treated pedantically and with precision; the pattern of treatment in each case is based upon

case analyses and statistical surveys of results. The value of the Korean case-load study is revealed in the presentation of detailed management protocols. Concepts relative to the handling of traumatic abscess, retained metallic fragments, through and through penetrating missile wounds, wounds involving the accessory nasal sinuses, etc., are shown to be modified as compared with older practices and the new experience is sufficiently broad to insist that every surgeon review his tenets relating to such injuries.

The illustrations of operating technique are simple and clear, and will appeal equally to the general surgeon who is not specifically trained in neurological surgery but who does and will continue to carry much of the load of disaster trauma.

Some variation in quality in the chapters is unavoidable and the inclusion of the management of herniating disc disease deviates somewhat from the otherwise quite immediate relevance of the chapters to military surgery. Yet trauma is not limited to warfare, and the civilian surgeon should make the contents of this volume part of his knowledge. Little new is found in the chapters on cranioplasty or peripheral nerve injuries and one might comment upon the meager mention of newer contributions in the management of, for example, the skeletal aspects of spine injuries, dural grafting, and nerve grafting. These omissions do not detract for the time base of the Korean War explains the lack of inclusion of more recent and unproven techniques.

Each chapter concludes with its own references. The index is quite complete and, for the very modest price, every surgeon in civilian or military practice who sees and cares for the injured patient should read and possess this work. It is mandatory reading for all neurosurgeons. It belongs in every medical library and it will be of historical interest as a sequel to the military history of *Neurosurgery in World War II*.

WALTER EUGENE STERN, M.D.

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GIVE AND TAKE—The Biology of Tissue Transplantation—Francis D. Moore, M.D. Anchor Books—Doubleday & Company, Inc., Garden City, New York, 1965. 216 pages, \$1.25 (Paperback). (Hardbound: W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1964—182 pages, \$5.50.)

One of the major problems of modern society is to make the language and interests of science comprehensible to the larger but equally concerned nonscientific community. Indeed, as science becomes more complex, it becomes involved in social and moral issues which can only be resolved if one understands both science and society. This delightful book, entitled *Give and Take*, is an exciting account of the biology of tissue transplantation, written by Francis D. Moore, Surgeon-in-Chief of the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital in Boston, and Moseley Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School. Dr. Moore has a particular flair for the lucid, dramatic and sparkling interpretation of science to the lay audience.

The book deals with the problems of transplanting live tissue from one individual to another. The first individual

gives the live tissue. It must take and live permanently on the second individual if it is to be of value in solving his biologic needs. The rejection of the tissue of one individual by another is the basis of our individuality and specificity, and is an unsolved problem in biology. The cause of the rejection is a difference in chemical or antigenic structure between the two individuals. This difference can be altered, attenuated, and, hopefully, breached if immunity between individuals could be suppressed or tolerance between individuals induced. Current immunological theories suggest that tolerance can be induced if the genetic disparity between individuals is not large, and if the immune reactions between individuals can be suppressed. This book makes a particular effort to clarify the basic scientific terms at play, and to illustrate the origins of our knowledge concerning these basic scientific phenomena with anecdotes, line drawings, simplicity and clarity of writing, and lucidity of expression. Into this scientific fabric is woven the charm of a gifted storyteller, and the book truly is an exciting story for both doctors and laymen as to the methods whereby the most advanced and scientific knowledge is carried over into the clinical care of patients. This type of communication and translation will be of increasing importance to science and society in the years ahead. This is one of the first areas in which practical medical therapy is contingent upon a universal understanding of basic biological phenomena, and Dr. Moore has done an outstanding job in portraying in a vivid and exciting manner the interplay between the acquisition of knowledge, its understanding, its utilization, and its inter-relationships to moral and ethical considerations in the cure of desperate diseases.

Dr. Moore is to be congratulated on an excellent achievement in scientific writing.

VICTOR RICHARDS, M.D.

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MANAGEMENT OF JUVENILE DIABETES MELLITUS—Howard S. Traisman, M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University Medical School; Associate Attending Physician and Head of the Diabetes Clinic, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois; and Attending Physician, Evanston Hospital Association, Evanston, Illinois; and Alvah L. Newcomb, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Northwestern University Medical School; Associate Attending Physician, Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago, Illinois; and Attending Physician, Evanston Hospital Association, Evanston, Illinois. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, 1965. 147 pages, \$12.75.

The authors state in the preface to this book that it is their purpose to provide for the pediatrician and general practitioner who is infrequently called upon to treat or diagnose diabetes a concise and practical method of management for the juvenile diabetic. This book is most valuable in those sections which describe the procedures and methods of management used by the authors in their own hospitals. The physician who is inexperienced in the treatment of diabetes and who does not have sufficient time to consult one of the current standard texts in diabetes may find this information useful and in a readily accessible form.

This is not a textbook or reference work and the authors have made a number of short statements about our basic knowledge and about the nature of diabetes and its complications which are unnecessarily brief and incomplete. In a number of instances their statements would be challenged by experts in the field and this book will have little interest for the specialist or the physician experienced in the treatment of diabetes mellitus.

JERALD C. NELSON, M.D.

OBSTETRICS—Thirteenth Edition—(From the Original Text of Joseph B. De Lee, M.D.)—J. P. Greenhill, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.I.C.S. (Hon.), F.A.C.O.G., Senior Attending Obstetrician and Gynecologist, The Michael Reese Hospital; Obstetrician and Gynecologist, Associate Staff, The Chicago Lying-in Hospital; Attending Gynecologist, Cook County Hospital; Professor of Gynecology, Cook County Graduate School of Medicine. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, Pa., 1965. 1246 pages, \$20.00.

A reviewer writing for another journal has referred to this edition of Greenhill's "Obstetrics" as practically a new book and suggests that it has attained a pinnacle reached by few textbooks. Though this volume certainly retains a spot in the list of top ranking American obstetric productions, one is inclined to question both of these claims. In the first place there is no real change in the general format of the book and relatively little in the topical material covered. Additional contributors have supplied chapters (both replacements for previous offerings and also some new subjects) concerning their areas of special competence. Thirty-four names of contributing authors are listed now as against twenty-three in the last edition. (In the preface Greenhill says only 32 others participated, but this appears to have been an erroneous count. The name of one contributor appears only as a footnote on page 725, thus it seems that at least 35 were involved.) On the title page one reads that there are 1,193 figures, but the last figure in the book is numbered 1,106. Some 87 figures and at least a few contributors got lost somewhere in the Saunders pressroom. But these losses have been counterbalanced by adding, unfortunately for the medical student, nearly 150 pages to the length of the book.

Notwithstanding these arithmetic difficulties, it is obvious—as I pointed out in reviewing the twelfth edition five years ago—that many parts of this textbook merit the attention of all students and practitioners of obstetrics. The two new opening chapters by Bent Boving (reproductive anatomy) and Elizabeth Ramsey (placenta-tion) are superb and warrant careful study by teachers as well as their trainees. Caldeyro-Barcia has described uterine activity in labor, Fluhmann has recapitulated his studies on cervical morphology, Hon discusses fetal electrocardiography, Daniel Moore describes obstetric anesthesia in considerable detail, and so on through the long list of experts and a wide array of topics.

Two new chapters are devoted to genetics, the first touching on problems in counseling (fashioned from Sheldon Reed's monograph), while the second is a particularly authentic piece by Murray Barr on cytogenetics and chromosomal abnormalities. A short essay on contraception has replaced Schmitz's interesting section on medicomoral problems, an exchange difficult to explain, and the traditional chapter on mutilating obstetric operations on the dead fetus has been dropped entirely for obvious reasons.

Except for insertion of the chapters by new contributors, there appears to have been rather minimal revision of the rest of the text. In at least a few areas the new material might have been somewhat better integrated into the existing sections. For example, the previous edition contained three sequential chapters dealing with the clinical course of labor, the passages, and finally the passengers. Currently, Caldeyro's views on uterine contractions have been blown up from two to 26 pages and slipped in as a separate chapter between the "clinical course" and the "passages" to make a cumbersome section which could have been improved by vigorous editing. Some of the reference lists suffer from lack of up-dating. Indeed, in certain instances the older lists appear to have been cropped a bit by the printer when the bottom of a page was